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AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.
84, WALTON STREET,
AYLESBURY,
BUCKS.

August, 1962.

To the Chairman and Members of the
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF AYLESBURY

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In presenting this Annual Report for the year 1961, I must of necessity be brief as I was not in office during the year. I have, however, studied the health statistics and as far as can be judged from these the progress towards better health in the District was maintained throughout the period.

I hope to change the form of my Report next year to include more comment on matters of general health relevant to the area.

It gives me pleasure to acknowledge the valuable work of my predecessor, Dr. Sims-Roberts, who was Medical Officer of Health to this Council for many years and to wish him happiness in his retirement.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. W. PRINGLE, B.A., M.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) Area of the District..... 89,313 acre

(b) Total Population (1961 Census)..... 33,840

(c) Number of inhabited houses (end of 1961) according to Rate Book..... 9,791

(d) Rateable Value.....£384,421.

(e) Sum represented by a Penny Rate..... £1,570.

VITAL STATISTICS

	1960			1961		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
Live Births - Legitimate	558	286	272	616	312	304
Illegitimate	22	13	9	22	13	9
Live birth rate per 1,000 population		17.7			18.9	
Birth rate (corrected)		19.47			20.8	
Birth rate for England & Wales		17.1			17.4	
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births		3.79			3.45	
Still Births: Number	4	1	3	10	6	4
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births		6.8			15.4	
Total live and still births	584	300	284	648	331	317

DEATHS

1960			1961		
Total	M	F	Total	M	F
324	168	156	389	204	185

	1960	1961
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population.....	9.9	11.5
Standardised Rate.....	10.0	11.3
Rate for England and Wales.....	11.5	12.0

	1960			1961		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
Infant Deaths:	9	7	2	12	5	7
Infant mortality rates:						
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births		15.5			18.8	
- do - legitimate		16.1			19.3	
- do - illegitimate		-			-	
Infant mortality rate for England and Wales		21.7			21.4	
Neo-Natal mortality rate:						
(Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) Number	8	6	2	8	4	4
Rate		13.8			12.5	

Infant Deaths (Cont'd)

	1960			1961		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
Early Neo-Natal mortality Rate: (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)						
Number	7	5	2	6	3	3
Rate		12.1			9.4	
Perinatal mortality rate: (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)						
Number	11	6	5	16	9	7
Rate		18.8			24.7	
Maternal Mortality Rate:		-			-	

Deaths from Cancer 61

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS

Disease	Number of Deaths Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	2	6
" " lung, bronchus	13	4	17
" " breast	-	4	4
" " uterus	-	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	18	31
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	26	39
Coronary disease, angina	42	28	70
Hypertension with heart disease	4	3	7
Other heart disease	14	22	36
Other circulatory disease	11	10	21
Influenza	4	1	5
Pneumonia	22	17	39
Bronchitis	16	8	24
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	3	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	1	4
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	3	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	20	21	41
Motor vehicle accidents	7	1	8
All other accidents	8	6	14
Suicide	1	-	1
Homicide	-	-	-

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases:

Disease	1960 No. of Cases Notified	1960 No. of Deaths	1961 No. of Cases Notified	1961 No. of Deaths
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	7	1	345	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	2	-
Scarlet Fever	13	-	6	-
Pneumonia	6	26	1	39
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	1	-
Diphtheria	4	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.	-	-	-	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	24	-	26	-
Para-Typhoid	-	-	-	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum ...	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	11	-
	61	27	392	39

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases Respiratory M	New Cases Respiratory F	New Cases Non-Respiratory M	New Cases Non-Respiratory F	Deaths Respiratory M	Deaths Respiratory F	Deaths Non-Respiratory M	Deaths Non-Respiratory F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	3	-	-	1	-	-	-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

Hospital accommodation for the District is provided by the Royal Bucks and Tindal Hospitals. Infectious disease cases are admitted to the Aylesbury Isolation Hospital.

These three hospitals are administered by the Royal Bucks and Associated Hospitals Management Committee.

Cases are admitted to the Stoke Mandeville Hospital or the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, if bed space is unavailable at the above. Similarly, infectious disease cases are admitted to infectious disease hospitals within the Oxford region when there is no accommodation locally.

Pathological Specimens

The majority of specimens for examination are submitted to the Pathology Laboratory, Stoke Mandeville Hospital. The services of the Public Health Laboratories at Luton and Oxford are utilised whenever necessary.

Ambulance Services

The ambulance services in the area are the responsibity of the Bucks County Council. 11 ambulances and 5 sitting cars are stationed in the Borough of Aylesbury for the use of the town and surrounding district.

Maternity and Child Welfare

This service is controlled by the Bucks County Council. Infant Welfare Clinics are held at Aylesbury, Brill, Long Crendon, Waddesdon, Quainton, Haddenham, Wendover, Whitchurch, Worminghall, Aston Clinton, Dinton, Halton, Stone, and Mobile Welfare Centres at Cuddington, Grendon Underwood and Westcott.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough immunisation and Poliomyelitis vaccination

The Bucks County Council, being the Local Health Authority as defined by the National Health Service Act, 1946, administer these services.

Treatment of Venereal Disease

A venereal disease clinic is held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, where free treatment is given. This clinic is administered by the Royal Bucks and Associated Hospitals Management Committee.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

PART I

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

Premises	No. on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers prosecute
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities....	8	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	52	23	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).....	45	32	-	-
Total.....	105	55	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
Total.....	7	7	-	-	-

PART VIII

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

There are 12 outworkers in the district all engaged in the making of wearing apparel. The premises in which the work is carried out have been inspected and found to be satisfactory in respect of conditions set out in the Act.

AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

R. A. CANT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., A.M.S.E.
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.
BUILDING SURVEYOR.
DEPUTY:
W. A. MATHER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.
TELEPHONE: AYLESBURY 4211 (THREE LINES).

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
84, WALTON STREET,
AYLESBURY,
BUCKS.

August, 1962.

To the Chairman and Members of the
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF AYLESBURY.

I have the honour to report on the work of the Inspectors' branch of the Department for the year 1961.

HOUSING

Slum Clearance:

As a result of action by the Council and reconditioning works carried out by owners without the need of official intervention, the number of properties remaining on the Council's original programme had been reduced to 121 at the end of the year.

Fifteen Demolition Orders and 1 Closing Order were made during the period under review and actual demolitions totalled 8.

The position at the end of the year was as follows:-

No. of properties represented to Committee	283
No. of properties dealt with by way of Improvement Grant, Informal and Private action	107
No. of properties remaining on list	121

No. of Demolition Orders made	177
No. of Closing Orders made	68
No. of Undertakings to close accepted	5
No. of Undertakings to repair accepted	27

No. of properties demolished (excluding hutments) ...	64
No. of properties made fit as a result of Undertakings	25
No. of properties subject to Demolition or Closing Orders which have subsequently been recorditioned	45

The whole programme, particularly with reference to the rehousing of tenants still occupying property subject to Demolition Orders and Closing Orders, was reviewed and reported upon in September.

In September and October further attempt was made to get the Almshouses at Worminghall reconditioned and a special Sub-Committee visited the property, but once again no progress could be made.

The Ministry Returns show 96 houses repaired during the year, 18 as a result of formal action and 78 following informal action by your officers.

No Certificates of Disrepair were issued during the year.

Improvement Grants:

Applications received during the year were as follows:-

Discretionary	47
Standard	45

of these, 3 were refused. Five were deferred in October when the Committee decided to suspend Discretionary Grants until 1st January 1962 after they had considered the terms of Circular 37/61 on "The Economic Situation".

The practice of inspection by a special Sub-Committee continues in the case of all Discretionary Grants. The visits are made after the applications have been carefully examined and the prices checked by your officers. Owners are encouraged to discuss their proposals, preferably on site, with the Inspectors before submitting the detailed applications.

The following figures give the position as at 31st December, 1961

Discretionary Grants

No. of Grants on Council property	3
No. of private properties covered by applications received	440
No. approved	390
No. refused	36
No. withdrawn before approval	14
	440
No. withdrawn after approval	27

Total amount of Grants paid (excluding withdrawals)

= £97,762. 10s. 3d.

Standard Grants

No. of applications received	110

NEW BUILDINGS

The number of plans submitted during the year totalled 705. These are summarised as follows:-

Building Byelaws - Town & Country Planning Act

Dwelling Houses

New	74	for 169 houses
Layout plans	2	for 42 houses
Outline applications	171	
Conversions	16	
Alterations and Additions ...	143	
Number of Private Enterprise Dwellinghouses completed ...	124	

Industrial

Alterations and Additions to Factories and Workshops ...	40
Outline applications	9

Miscellaneous

Agricultural Buildings	38	
Private Garages	155	
Caravans	17	for 19 caravans
Others	40	

Number of Dwellings completed

Private	124
Local Authority	33
	157

Decisions on 36 Planning Appeals were received. Of these, 22 were dismissed and 14 granted.

Legal action was taken in 2 cases, both related to the removal of unauthorised caravans.

FOOD INSPECTION

Slaughterhouses:

The Council's Report on Slaughterhouses submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food last year was confirmed in March, including the recommended date of 1st January, 1962 for premises to be brought up to the required standard. At the end of the year, two owners had elected to modernise their premises, as anticipated in the Report.

In June an application was received for the construction of a new modern slaughterhouse; although approval was subsequently obtained, no work had been started at the end of the year.

Full inspection of all slaughtering was maintained at the four slaughterhouses operating up to 31st December, 1961.

The schedule of inspections and condemnations for the year is as follows:-

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	175	3	21	1030	300
Number inspected	175	3	21	1030	300
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	29	-	-	54	22
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	16.6	-	-	5.24	7.66
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	2	-	-	-	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.14	-	-	-	1.66

There was no case of Cysticercosis

Number of visits to slaughterhouses	...	339
Total number of carcases inspected	...	1529
Total weight of meat condemned	...	660 lbs.
Number of licensed slaughtermen	...	11

Food Premises:

The general standard of these premises was well maintained and again no statutory action was necessary during the year.

Three new Ice Cream registrations were granted.

WATER SUPPLY

All parishes in the District are now served by the Bucks Water Board.

A main extension scheme was under consideration for Lower Hartwell late in the year. This involved considerable negotiation and discussion, but agreement was eventually obtained from all the parties involved.

Following reports on the old spring supply at Sandy Lane, Long Crendon, it was decided to take steps to close this as a public water supply by dismantling the collecting catchpit.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection:

During the year approximately 8,000 tons of refuse was collected. The vehicles used in this work were 1 Paxit "Major", 3 Paxits and 1 - 10 cu.yd. Sideloader (all Dennis machines), with one old Paxit in reserve. In this period the second of the 3 original Paxits was replaced. Mileage by these vehicles totalled 42,522.

The period of collections could not be improved during the year. It remains at 70% weekly, 20% on 9/10 days and 10% fortnightly. By December, however, it was clear that the desired improvement would be brought about in 1962 providing there was no loss of labour.

Disposal at Hartwell Depot is still carried out by one man driving a Chaseside Mechanical Shovel, although some help is now obtained for a week or 10 days per year by hiring a bull-dozer to help overcome the problems of water-filled pits on the site.

Waste paper salvage was disposed of to the value of £879. 6s. 4d. This could be improved upon, and in December a light trailer was purchased to facilitate the collection of waste paper. It is intended to equip all the principal vehicles in this manner at a later date.

The bin hiring scheme continues to grow, the total issues at the end of the year numbering 3,295. Of these only a very small number were replacements.

It is interesting to note from the last issue of the Public Cleansing Costing Returns that the cost of collection and disposal in the District at £2,011 per 1,000 properties is well below the average for Rural Authorities and very slightly less than that for Urban Districts. In view of the size of the District and the considerable travelling involved, these figures are very satisfactory.

Cesspool Emptying:

The operation of new sewerage schemes enabled the work of cesspool emptying to be further reduced during the year and by December plans were in hand for putting two of the five Cesspool Emptying Vehicles to reserve. The machines registered a total mileage of 51,303 miles during the year in removing 5,175 loads. The chief problem in this part of the cleansing service is still the question of tips for disposal of sewage.

Some private work was carried out and this, together with a few cases of extra service for which a charge is made, resulted in an income of £280. 16s. 6d. The anticipated re-arrangement of the schedules and reduction of vehicles operating, will limit the possibility of offering this facility during 1962.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Considerable progress was achieved during 1961 in the provision of sewerage and sewage disposal facilities; the following schemes were completed:-

Chilton.	Oakley.
Long Crendon.	Grendon Underwood.

Work was commenced on the joint scheme for Hardwick and Weedon, also on the new Sewage Disposal Works for Wendover.

A scheme for Cuddington and Lower Winchendon was adopted and submitted to the Ministry for approval, also proposed improvements to the outfall sewer at Waddesdon and the addition of humus tanks and other works to the Disposal Site at Quainton.

The scheme for alterations to the Aston Clinton Joint Scheme, together with modernisation of the Disposal Works, was the subject of an Inquiry in September and Ministry approval was received for this in December.

Preliminary consideration was given to proposals for providing full treatment at Haddenham by constructing a disposal plant on a new site. The matter was still under review at the end of the year.

Sewer extensions were carried out at:-

Dinton ... ... Cost £173. 5s. 0d.

Worminghall ... Cost £291. 2s. 8d.

The effect of new legislation concerning trade effluents with particular reference to farm drainage was under review at the end of the year. It was decided that your officers should meet the local National Farmers' Union Members to discuss the effects of the Public Health Act, 1961 before reporting further on this subject to the Council.

PEST DESTRUCTION

The principal work under this heading is, of course, the destruction of rats and mice. A limited amount of contract work at agricultural and business premises is undertaken, in addition to routine inspections. This contract work could be extended and inquiries concerning this are always welcomed.

A variety of other pests are dealt with from time to time. Attention to fly control on the refuse tips is continuous during the summer and a considerable amount of time and material is spent on this. During 1961 the wasp season gave rise to much work by our operator in meeting the requests for assistance in dealing with nests. Some 150 nests were destroyed.

A summary of the recorded rodent infestations treated is given below:-

Infestations	Rats	Mice
L.A. properties	36	-
Private dwellings	92	12
Business premises	6	2
Agricultural premises	79	5

Total number of inspections made in dealing with general pest control was 1,348.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

The new Regulations were applied to all stores as from 1st January, 1961 and these, among other things, necessitated the submission of electrical certificates before licences were renewed. In spite of early warning to traders, considerable difficulty was experienced in getting the required certificates.

Altogether 87 licences were issued whilst those for 2 stores were held in abeyance owing to difficulties relating to the electrical certificates.

All licences were issued in the new Licence Books which set out in full the new Regulations and also hold a copy of the plan of the store.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

New Buildings	1863
Cleansing	82
Dangerous Buildings	36
Ditches	107
Drainage	941
Drain Tests	484
Agricultural Workers	38
Factories	55
Food Premises and Food Inspection	90
Housing Acts	464
Improvement Grants	702
Rent Act	2
Infestation and Infectious Diseases ...	20
Levelling	41
Milk Regulations	5
Miscellaneous	328
Moveable Dwellings	245
Nuisances	105
Petroleum Acts	201
Public Health Act	236
Refuse Collection and Scavenging	168
Rodent Control	1367
Sanitary Surveys	3
Sewage Works	309
Sewerage	828
Slaughterhouses	458
Smoke	2
Swimming Baths	2
Water Supply	76
Water Samples	20

No staff changes occurred in the Department during the period under review. The retirement of Dr. Sims-Roberts as Medical Officer of Health at the end of the year terminated, so far as I am concerned, a long association in the service of the Aylesbury Rural District Council. I would like to place on record my gratitude for the help, encouragement and great courtesy he has always extended to me. I am sure the staff of this Department join in wishing him a happy and enjoyable retirement.

I wish to record my thanks and appreciation for the help and assistance given by the Members, the Officers of the Council and especially the Health Department.

Your obedient Servant,

R. A. CANT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., A.M.S.E.

Chief Public Health Inspector and
Building Surveyor.